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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/788,439 | HASHIMOTO ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Charles Ehne | 2113 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 3/1/2004.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/1/2004
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-18 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-5 are found to be allowable due to following limitations:

 said irregular transmission means acts as transmission means that is applicable when any error is present in a report communication provided by said regular report means, and is also applied when required as to a readout request for a monitoring input data of a specified address from said first control circuit section to said second control circuit section, and a readout request for reading out and checking a write save data having been written and set by said regular transmission means;

 said irregular transmission means further acts as readout request means that makes a readout request again from the first control circuit section to the second control circuit section in the case of presence of any communication error in a report reply of a monitoring input data of a specified address or a write save data, said report reply being carried out as a confirmation reply to the fact that said second control circuit section has received said irregular transmission data;

 said unprocessed data table acts as a receiving-side command memory arranged so as to sequentially save a command data for executing a confirmation reply when said second control circuit section receives any transmission data from said first control circuit section, and to sequentially erase said saved data when said second

control circuit section transmits the confirmation reply data to said first control circuit section; and the transmission of a regular report data can be carried out while preventing upstream communication jam-up from said second control circuit section to said first control circuit section with said unprocessed data table.

Claims 6-18 are found to be allowable due to the above and following limitations: said first and second communication error determination means act as plural types of receiving error determination means that determine presence of absence of any error regarding various regular and irregular communication packets that a control circuit section on the side where the mentioned determination means is provided has received from the other control circuit section, or that discriminate a state that any communication packet to be received cannot be received; said first and second adding-subtracting means act as operation means that adds or subtracts a second variation value when any of said plural types of receiving error determination means determines the presence of error, and subtracts or adds a first variation value when all the receiving error determination means determine the absence of any error to perform an addition-subtraction compensation with respect to a current value memory so as to offset each other, and stops an addition-subtraction compensation with said first variation value at a predetermined normal-side limit value when the determination of the absence of error continues.

These limitations in combination with the remaining limitations are seen as being neither anticipated nor obvious in view of the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles Ehne whose telephone number is (571)-272-2471. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Beausoliel can be reached on (571)-272-3645. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Robert W. Bensoulel
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